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plan. Any one entitled to weekly payments has the same preferential claim therefor against the assets of the employer as now allowed by law for unpaid wages or personal services.

The agreement to the plan may be canceled on sixty days' notice in writing from either party to the other. Each employer of labor who accepts the plan with any of his employees is required to submit a report on January 1, 1911, and annually thereafter, and at such other times as the Commissioner of Labor may require, giving all amounts paid under such plan to injured employees.

Three states (New York, Wisconsin and Minnesota) had prior to this year authorized the appointment of commissions to investigate the subject of employer's liability and workmen's insurance. The New York Commission submitted its first report in March of this year. It is but proper to say that the act described above was one of the bills or plans as recommended by the commission. Two other states, Ohio and New Jersey, have this year passed resolutions for the appointment of commissions to investigate this subject. Each commission is required to report at the next session of the legislature, together with such bill or bills as are deemed necessary or advisable by the commission. The Ohio commission is to consist of five persons, to be appointed by the governor, two of whom shall be representatives of the employers of labor, two representatives of labor, and one a lawyer. The New Jersey commission is to consist of six members, four of whom are to be appointed by the governor and one each by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house. The governor is required to appoint two who are representatives of the labor interests and two who are representatives of the employers' interest.

H. E. F.

Immigration: Legislation in New York. A 1910 amendment to the New York labor law creates a new bureau in the department of labor, to be known as the bureau of industries and immigration, which is under the immediate charge of a chief investigator, but subject to the supervision and direction of the commissioner of labor. The aim of this new bureau is to keep in touch as far as possible with all aliens arriving or already in the state. The work of the bureau is carried on by special investigators appointed by the commissioner of labor, not to exceed twelve in number and not more than two to be women. The salaries of these investigators are of two grades, the first grade \$1200 a year and the second, \$1500 a year. By means of information collected con-

cerning aliens and data relative to the conditions and needs of the various forms of industrial and agricultural labor throughout the state, the supply and quality of the labor of aliens can be regulated in some degree in accordance with the demand. The commissioner of labor is required to give lists of alien children of school age to the proper authorities to aid in the enforcement of the compulsory school attendance law. Through the coöperation of the commissioner of labor with the various boards of education existing in the state, both minor and adult aliens may be given opportunities for instruction in the English language, duties and rights of citizenship and the fundamental principles of the American system of government. Labor camps, employment and contract agencies, institutions dealing with various classes of aliens, conditions at docks, railroad stations, etc., are subject to inspection by the labor commissioner and the investigators he appoints. Also, he has power to investigate such questions as deportation, private bankers in their dealings with aliens, frauds, extortions and the general social conditions of aliens and report the results of his investigations to the proper authorities. Employment agencies, with certain exceptions, are required to register with the commissioner of labor and make an annual report to him. While the powers of the bureau of industries and immigration are limited almost entirely to investigating, three other laws which were also passed at the last session deal directly with certain frauds imposed upon aliens. Two are amendments to the business law. One of these protects aliens by providing a general system of license of all private bankers by the state comptroller and the other by providing a similar system of license of ticket agents of railroads and steamship companies. The third is an amendment to the penal law and is directed against frauds practised on aliens by notaries public and commissioners of deeds or persons posing as such officers. For all these laws dealing with the different phases of the immigration problem,—labor of aliens, their economic and social conditions and the frauds practised upon them,—the special commission of immigration appointed by Governor Hughes in 1908, is responsible.

ETHEL CLELAND.

Interstate Commerce. The republican platform of 1908 approved the railroad rate law passed under the Roosevelt administration and declared for its strict enforcement. Two new features were proposed, namely, that railroads be permitted to make traffic agreements subject to the approval of the interstate Commerce Commission and that leg-